



## **Outdoor Programs 2025**

### **Summary Themes and Recommendations**

### **Action POCs and Volunteer Contributors**

#### **Themes:**

Camping is Essential  
Travel Distance is Important  
Cost and Value are Critical  
Program Variety is Needed  
Quality Facilities are Needed  
Camp Staff Makes a Difference

**Short-Term:**      **Already in progress, initiated during OP25, easy to activate**  
                         **Assigned to a committee and staff advisor**

- Create an Action Plan with assigned leads to implement the recommendations of Outdoor Programs 2025
- Gain endorsement by the Scouting Community and approval by the NCAC Executive Board
- Make the Action Plan a part of the Optimizing Facilities portion of the NCAC Strategic Plan
- Review progress on the Action Plan on a quarterly basis
- Form partnerships with commercial camps, church camps, government properties, the YMCA, etc., to reduce travel time and distance for unit and districts events
- Greatly expand the list of council-approved camping sites for Cub units
- Establish vendor relationships to supply multiple districts reduced essentials for events at reduced cost, e.g. port-a-potties
- In addition to scholarships for camp, find a way to rent, loan, or otherwise offer low-cost camping gear to financially disadvantaged youth or units just starting out
- Form partnerships with commercial camps, church camps, government properties, the YMCA, etc., to enable unit and District events for reasonable cost
- Poll NCAC units for their suggested program ideas, to include those from other councils' camps, that they would like to see in NCAC day and summer camps, and find a way to inject some of these programs changes into day and summer camps each year

- Create a web-based, self-serve, user-contributed resource that catalogs vendors and providers of outdoor opportunities (in addition to the where to camp resources)
- Gather best practices from other institutions to redesign how our Council provides tailored meals for Scouts that need them
- Consider incentivizing returning seasonal camp staff members with possible programs like mentorships through Executive Board members and their companies.

**Mid-Term:**                    **Assigned to a committee for review and to identify implementation tactics**  
**Able to fund, where needed, from operating budget**

- Make adjustments to program offerings, camp facilities and staff to be inclusive of Scouts with special needs
- Expanded Council offerings of high adventure programs to include more Scout learning, leading and doing in challenging, near-by environments
- Improve facilities maintenance, program and staff for a better camper experience while addressing attendance trends
- Complete the installation of wideband internet at GSR and Camp Snyder to offer connectivity for all campers
- Upgrade GSR and Camp Snyder shower houses and toilet facilities to provide a satisfactory, healthy experience consistent with safeguarding youth
- Design and implement a seasonal summer camp staff compensation and amenities package that attracts the best Scouts in NCAC and other councils to become staff members at GSR and Camp Snyder; while also rewarding those that continue to return.

**Long Term:**                    **Require more study and consideration**  
**Would need a sustainability, feasibility study before considering**  
**presentation, ahead of implementation**  
**Based on findings, additional funding sources would need to be developed.**

- Establish a Range and Target Activities complex within our Council's boundaries to provide more year-round shooting sports activities, in light of new Scouting American requirements on acceptable facilities
- Acquire at least one other property in the eastern half of our Council for unit and District events, which might also feature a multi-function training facility